

MARVEL

3

ALLEN
AUDINO
HESLI

MOONSTAR

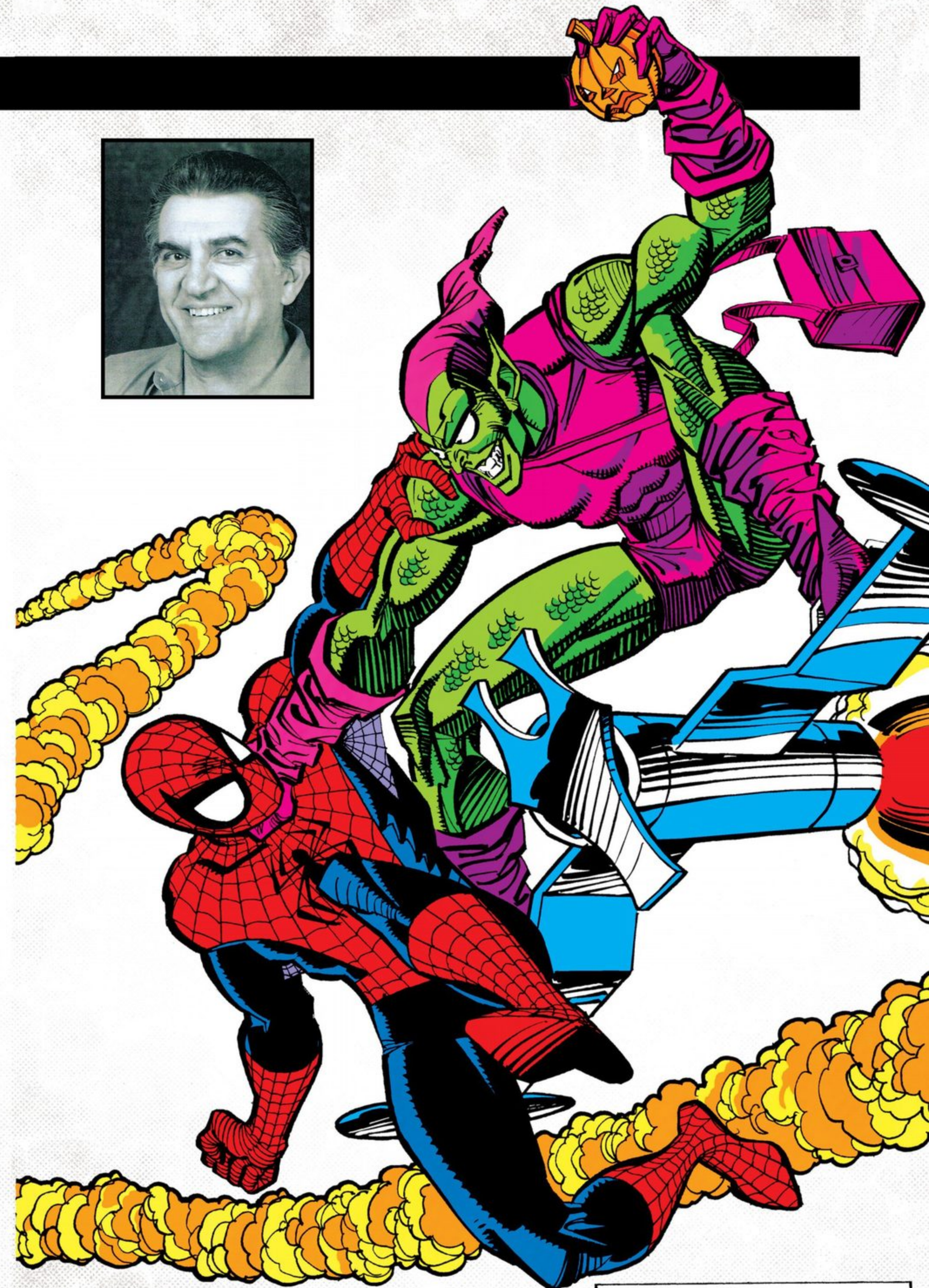
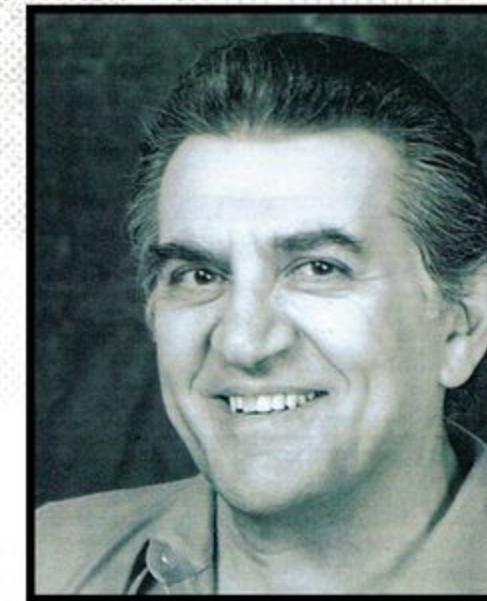
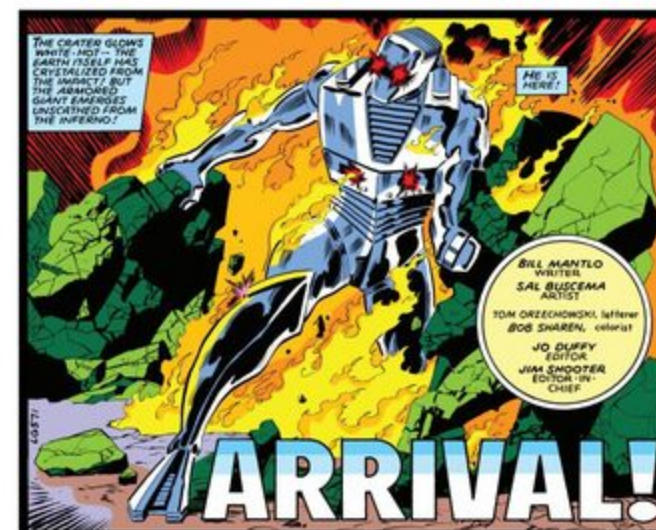


26

RATED T+

SAL BUSCEMA

1936-2026



Sal Buscema

Marvel pauses to remember Sal Buscema, a foundational Marvel artist since 1969. Buscema was a prolific penciler and inker, working on nearly every Marvel character. His clear, dynamic storytelling was a feature of long, historic runs on *Spectacular Spider-Man*, *Incredible Hulk* and *Rom*. Buscema was famed for drawing bombastic roundhouse punches that sent characters sprawling across the page, but he could also be capable of great subtlety and emotion in his character acting. "Our Pal Sal" will be missed by generations of Marvel fans.

A PROUD MEMBER OF THE **CHEYENNE NATION**, **DANI MOONSTAR** USES HER PSIONIC ABILITIES TO FIGHT FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IN A WORLD THAT FEARS AND HATES HER!

MOONSTAR



DANIELLE MOONSTAR



KIAN MIR



KYRON

A few months ago, **MOONSTAR** and her best friend Magik brought down the corrupt mystical organization, the **SOCIETY OF THE ETERNAL DAWN**. But what they didn't realize was that in the Society's ruins, the ancient warrior **KYRON** was freed from his prison, along with his mythic sword, **DÁINSLEIF**--a blade that traps the souls of its victims! Kyron intends to wreak havoc to complete his **DEATH RITUAL**, which will purge the world of all life.

Moonstar, with Society members **KIAN** and **YANISA**, tried to stop Kyron's rampage. But Yanisa did not survive Kyron's fury, forcing Kian and Dani to push forward on their mission without her. The two raced to keep Kyron from finding the **NÀIHÉ HUNPING**--a death relic whose power will amplify Kyron's ritual to world-ending proportions. Kian and Moonstar fought to stop Kyron from acquiring the relic, but when Dani made the mistake of touching Dáinsleif during the battle, she was pulled into a deep and deadly trance by the sword's ancient magic...

"PAID IN INTEREST"

WRITER

ASHLEY ALLEN

COLOR ARTIST

ARTHUR HESLI

COVER ARTIST

GERMÁN PERALTA

ARTIST

EDOARDO AUDINO

LETTERER

VC's CLAYTON COWLES

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

MINGYI GAN;
ANNIE WU

JAY BOWEN – Design DARREN SHAN – Editor
TOM BREVOORT – Conductor of X C.B. CEBULSKI – Editor in Chief



HOME HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FUNNY CONCEPT FOR ME.

I KNOW THAT KRAKOA HAS FELT LIKE MANY MUTANTS' FIRST HOME. BUT I WAS LUCKY THAT MY PARENTS ALWAYS ACCEPTED ME.

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT.



WHEN MY PARENTS DISAPPEARED, HOME QUICKLY BECAME MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE.

AND SOON AFTER, WHEN I MOVED TO XAVIER'S MANSION, HOME BECAME MY FRIENDS.



HOME HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE PEOPLE I'VE LOVED.

NEVER A SET LOCATION. BUT KRAKOA...



...KRAKOA IS WHERE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE. A PLACE TO SETTLE DOWN. WITH ALL MY FRIENDS SAFE.

A CHANCE TO TRAIN THE NEXT GENERATION-- HELPING THEM GROW INTO WHO THEY'RE MEANT TO BE.



my lady.

WHAT--?



THEY'RE UPON US. WE HAVE MINUTES BEFORE THEY STRIKE.

WHAT'S THIS?! WHERE ARE WE?! WHY HAVE THE VALKYRIES ASSEMBLED?!

WE MUST ATTACK BEFORE THEIR NEXT BATTALION IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD.



IT'S MOMENTS LIKE THESE WHERE I REALIZE WAR IS EASY TO FALL BACK INTO.

FOR A MOMENT I'M TEMPTED TO FOLLOW THE RIVER. LET IT SWEEP ME INTO ITS PREDETERMINED COURSE. I KNOW THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO.

BUT WHATEVER IS SLITHERING IN MY HEAD DOESN'T KNOW HOW **STUBBORN** I AM. HOW FAST I'LL DIG MY HEELS IN.



GROWING UP AS AN EMPATH, I SOMETIMES HAD A HARD TIME TELLING OTHERS' EMOTIONS FROM MY OWN.

BUT I KNOW THAT THIS IS NOT MY MEMORY.



A HORSE IN A DREAM.

DEATH IS COMING. NO--

--DEATH IS HERE.



CHARGE!

SOMETHING IS TRYING TO WORK ITS WAY INTO MY HEAD. IT'S COMING THROUGH MY MEMORIES.

BUT WHAT IS IT SEARCHING FOR?



MY BODY JUMPS INTO MOTION. SPURRED ON BY EITHER MY OWN MUSCLE MEMORY OR SOMEONE ELSE'S.

I MAY HAVE BEEN A VALKYRIE, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS BATTLEFIELD.



SOMETHING IS NUDGING AT THE BACK OF MY HEAD, TRYING TO GET IN.



DAMMIT, DANI. WHY AREN'T YOU WAKING UP?!

AND SUDDENLY, I REMEMBER. FIGHTING KYRON. TOUCHING THE CURSED SWORD DÄINSLEIF.



KIAN?!

USUALLY, MY MENTAL DEFENSES ARE BETTER THAN THIS. BUT DÄINSLEIF'S SOMEHOW IN MY HEAD.

I'M DYING. AND THE SWORD IS TRYING TO TAKE MY SOUL.



OR RATHER, THE MEMORY OF THE WOMAN INSIDE THE SWORD.

HILDR.

DON'T WORRY. I WON'T CLAIM YOUR SOUL YET. I DO NOT WANT THIS BATTLE TO END.

LET'S FIGHT, LITTLE WARRIOR. VALKYRIE TO VALKYRIE.



HA! HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU WIELDED A WEAPON, CHILD?

NOT ALL OF US WERE IMBUED WITH DIVINE STRENGTH AND SPEED.



IT SHOWS.

I'M NOT GOING TO BE QUICK ENOUGH.

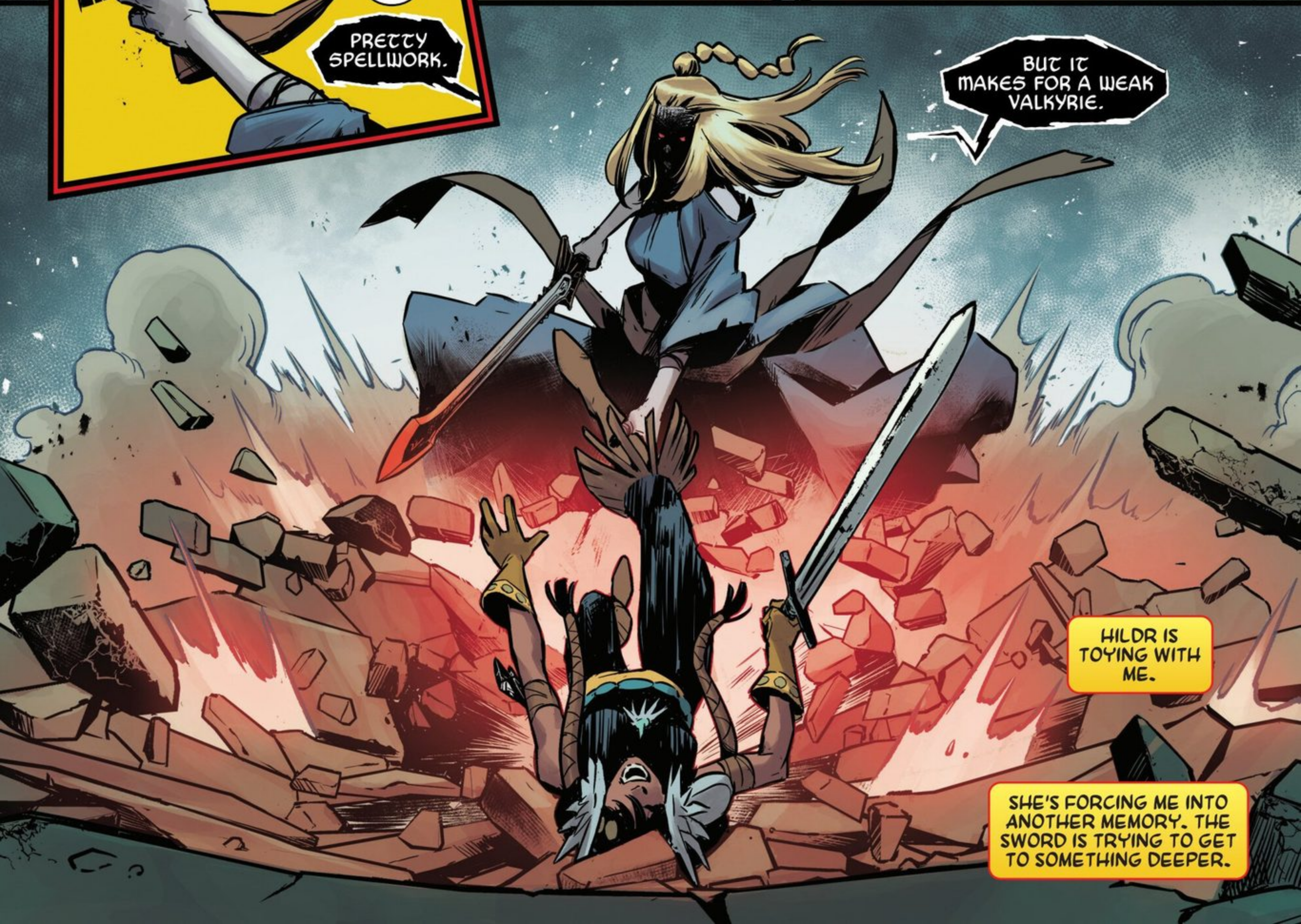


VAENGIR.

A FLIGHT SPELL?



! PRETTY SPELLWORK.



BUT IT MAKES FOR A WEAK VALKYRIE.

HILDR IS TOYING WITH ME.

SHE'S FORCING ME INTO ANOTHER MEMORY. THE SWORD IS TRYING TO GET TO SOMETHING DEEPER.



WHAT?!
XAVIER'S
MANSION?

IT'S STRANGE TO BE
BACK HERE. I LIVED AT
THIS MANSION DURING
MY NEW MUTANTS
DAYS. SO MUCH HAS
HAPPENED SINCE THEN.



WHY ARE
YOU HERE, HILDR?
DO YOU REALLY
CRAVE BATTLE
THIS MUCH?

OF
COURSE
I DO.

I HAVE
TO TAKE MY
FUN WHERE I
CAN HAVE
IT.



UNFORTUNATELY,
THOUGH, I'M LOOKING
FOR SOMETHING.



BUT BY ALL
MEANS, PLEASE
CONTINUE RESISTING.
I'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP
FORCING YOU BACK
IN TIME UNTIL THE
RIGHT MEMORY
EMERGES.



MAYBE I'LL
GIVE YOU ANOTHER
CHANCE TO TRY AGAIN.
WE HAVE TIME.



I DON'T
KNOW THAT YOU
SHOULD SHOW ME
ANY MERCY,
HILDR.

DID YOU
FORGET
THAT YOU'RE IN
A TELEPATH'S
HEAD?

I CONTROL MY DREAMS. REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU TRY TO MANIPULATE THEM, THERE'S ONE THING YOU GOT WRONG. IN THE X-MEN, WE'RE NEVER REALLY ALONE.

HONESTLY, IT GETS ANNOYING AT POINTS.

THOUGH IN THIS CASE, I'LL GLADLY TAKE YOU DOWN WITH THE NEW MUTANTS BY MY SIDE.







NO MORE
TRICKS NOW.
YOU'RE ALONE,
CHILD.



HOW MANY
YEARS HAVE
YOU LET YOUR TEAM
COMPENSATE
FOR YOUR
WEAKNESS?

UNABLE TO
FIGHT YOUR
BATTLES ON
YOUR OWN.



LET'S SEE
HOW YOU FARE
WITH THE MASK
PEELED AWAY.



BNRY.

AAAAA!







WHY SETTLE ON ONE SOUL AT A TIME WHEN I CAN HAVE THEM ALL?



NO!



WHAT-- FATHER?! BUT YOU'RE DEAD!

HILDR MAY JUST BE A SPECTER IN THE SWORD, BUT I CAN STILL TAP INTO HER MIND--INTO HER GREATEST FEAR.



MEMORIES ARE A FICKLE THING, AREN'T THEY? IT'S A GOOD THING MY SPECIALTY IS FEAR.

YOU SHOULD HAVE RUN WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE, DÄINSLEIF.



IF YOU LOOK IN MY HEAD, I'LL DIG THROUGH YOURS.



IN THE NORSE LEGENDS, HILDR'S KIDNAPPING LAUNCHED HER FATHER INTO WAR.

AFTER SHE WAS SAVED, SHE USED HER POWERS TO FIGHT BY HER FATHER'S SIDE, RAISING THE DEAD TO FIGHT IN ENDLESS BATTLE.

I BEG YOU, FATHER...PLEASE STOP THIS MADNESS.

BUT THE LEGENDS WERE WRONG.



I'M HOME SAFE. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO CONTINUE YOUR WAR. WE CAN HAVE PEACE.



HILDR, DO NOT SHED TEARS FOR THESE ANIMALS.

NO ONE HAS TO DIE BECAUSE OF ME.

YOU TAKE ON EVERYONE'S BURDENS AS YOUR OWN. IT IS NOT SOLELY UP TO YOU TO SOLVE THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS.



I'LL FIND A WAY TO RESURRECT THEM.

YOUR OPTIMISM IS ADMIRABLE. IT MAKES ME NOSTALGIC FOR MY YOUTH.

HILDR DIDN'T WANT TO CONTINUE HER FATHER'S NEVER-ENDING WAR. SHE WANTED TO SAVE THE SOULS TAKEN IN A POINTLESS CONFLICT.



BUT YOU WILL OUTGROW IT.

I AM DEPARTING AT DAWN TO COLLECT THE TABLET OF DEATH AND ENTROPY. THE SPELL WITHIN WILL--



ENOUGH.



WHOSE HEAD AM I IN NOW?
WHO ELSE DOES DAINSELEIF
HAVE ACC--?

KYRON.

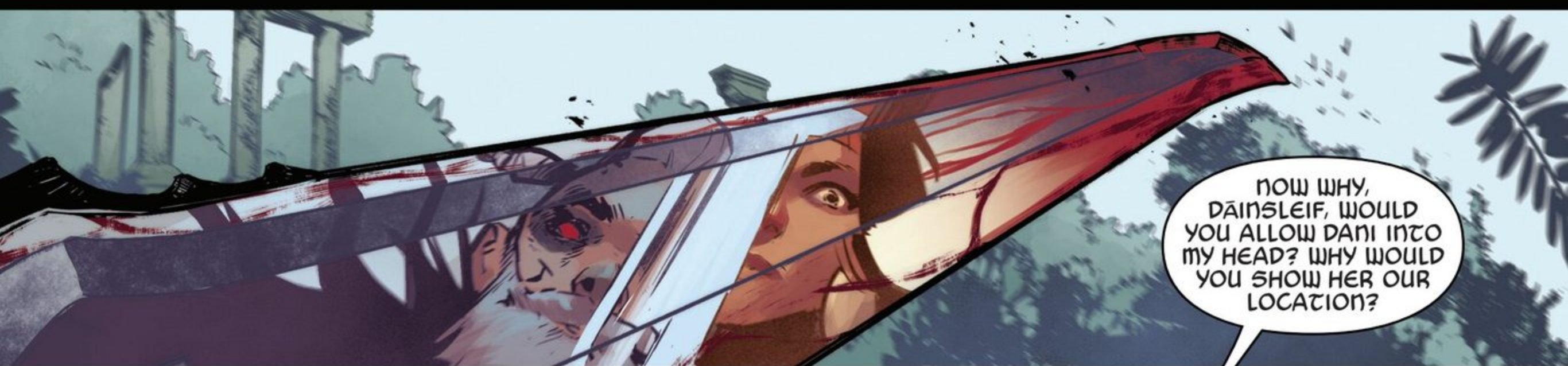
4MMM.



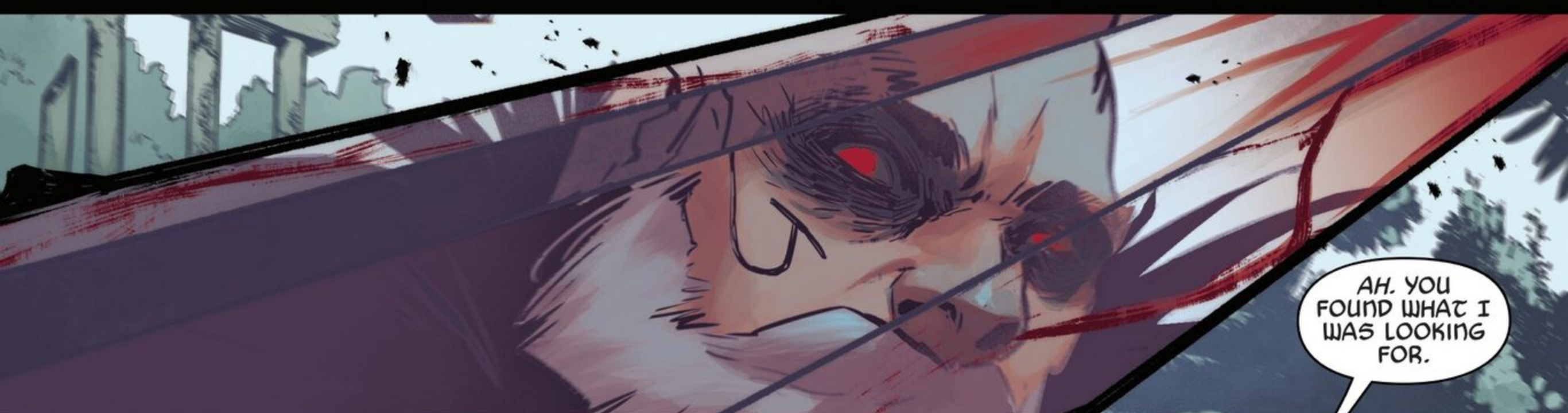
WHAT--?

DAINSELEIF?
...NO.

DANI
MOONSTAR.



NOW WHY,
DAINSELEIF, WOULD
YOU ALLOW DANI INTO
MY HEAD? WHY WOULD
YOU SHOW HER OUR
LOCATION?

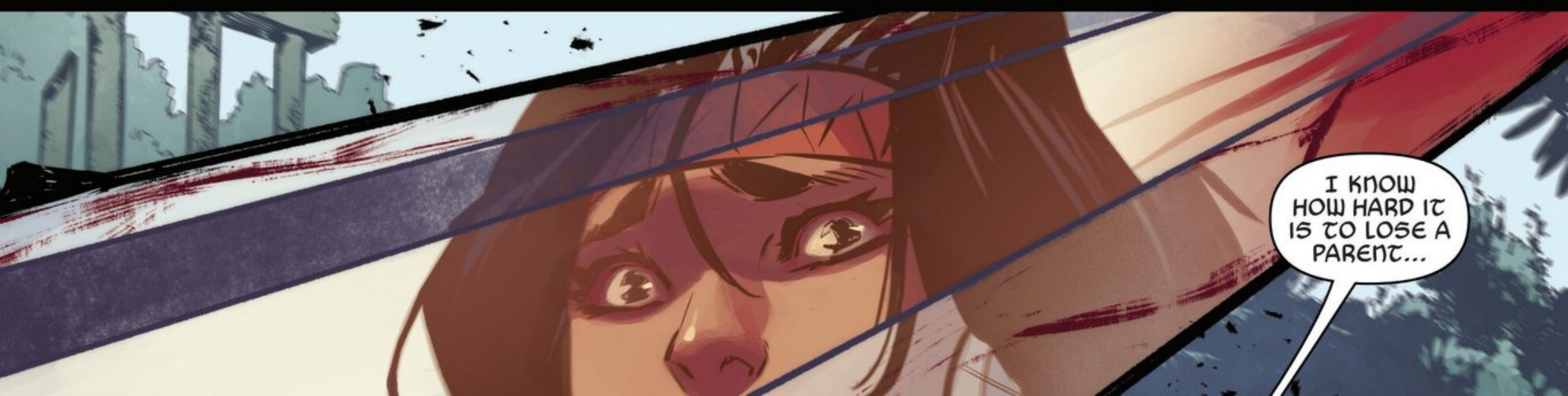


AH. YOU
FOUND WHAT I
WAS LOOKING
FOR.



THE RANCH
SHOULD LOOK
BEAUTIFUL THIS
TIME OF YEAR. I HOPE
YOU WON'T BE IN MY
HEAD, DANI, WHEN
IT HAPPENS.

IT WOULDN'T
BE FAIR TO PUT
YOU THROUGH THAT.
I'M NOT CRUEL
AFTER ALL.



I KNOW
HOW HARD IT
IS TO LOSE A
PARENT....

X-MENTIONS

A HARD LAND, MADELYNE, WHERE ONLY THE TOUGHEST AND WILDEST OF CREATURES HAVE EVEN A HOPE OF SURVIVAL.

- Hey, remember back in the day when certain Marvel titles would accelerate their release schedules during the summer months, providing a greater machine gun of intensity to their storylines? Well, we're doing it again this summer with **X-MEN**, **UNCANNY X-MEN** and **WOLVERINE**! Expect to find new issues of your favorite titles on your retailer's shelves twice a month during this summer bonanza! As for what you'll see:
- **X-MEN #31** showcases the X-Men's science team, who investigate an unexpected anomaly and find far more than they bargained for!
- **UNCANNY X-MEN #29** brings the ongoing saga of Graymalkin Prison to a climax as the true identity of Inmate X is revealed and everything hits the fan!
- A BREAK or straight-up BROKEN? You'll have to read **WOLVERINE #21** to see what shocking thing happens to Logan during his latest tussle with primal forces like the Adamantine! Plus: Titania and the Absorbing Man!
- Revisit a fan-favorite era in the mighty mutants' past in **X-MEN: OUTBACK #1**! **Steve Orlando** and **Stephen Segovia** journey back to a time when the public believed Storm, Wolverine, Rogue, Colossus, Dazzler, Havok, Psylocke and Longshot were dead. But from their Australian headquarters, these X-Men struck from the shadows to protect humanity! But why did the team choose the Outback as their home base? How did tensions between them almost tear the team apart? And which of their old enemies threatened to expose their secret?
- The time-lost X-Man is back! Bishop has always lived by a strict code. But that code will get called into question when his sister, Shard, is sent to the present right before she died! Will Bishop adhere to his principles and protect the timestream? Or will he risk it all to save the most important person in his life? **Saladin Ahmed** and **Mario Santoro** will put the tough-as-nails mutant through the ringer in **BISHOP #1**!

AS THIS PAGE WAS GOING TO PRINT, WE WERE SADDENED TO HEAR OF THE UNEXPECTED PASSING OF JACOPO CAMAGNI, ARTIST OF GENERATION X-23. OUR CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY. ALL OF MARVELDOM IS DIMINISHED BY THIS TRAGIC LOSS. R.I.P.

X-MEN #31



BISHOP #1



X-MEN: OUTBACK #1



5 FUN FACTS ABOUT: TONY S. DANIEL

ARTIST OF X-MEN



1. I grew up drawing. I loved watching cartoons and looking at comics, especially anything Spider-Man and Marvel Comics-related. I was always Spider-Man for Halloween, and my favorite Spidey villain was the Green Goblin. I was heartbroken the year I tossed my Green Goblin into the air and his lab coat got him caught on a tree branch. It's possible he's still hanging there waiting for me to get him down.
2. I established a comic book company in 4th grade along with five or six other students. The characters were very Looney Tunes in style, though they were super heroes. We were in a strict Catholic school whose nuns, when we were caught passing our books around, would tear them up in front of the whole laughing class. That 64-page annual of Ball and the Gang will never be read!
3. John Byrne and Mike Zeck were my favorite artists growing up. I loved X-MEN, FANTASTIC FOUR and PUNISHER in particular. SECRET WARS was a huge inspiration for me back then. I modeled much of my approach after the two of them when I started to draw in a more serious, "traditional" comic book style as a teenager.
4. I started drawing comics professionally at the age of 21. My first Marvel work was X-FORCE ANNUAL #2 back in 1993. It was a great opportunity for someone so young, and I was truly learning on the job. I didn't know perspective, but not for lack of trying. The instructional books at that time weren't geared for what I needed. There were a lot of technological advances in the first ten years of my career that would've made life a lot easier. All said, there is something for learning the hard way.
5. I grew up in a family full of artists and painters. I like to paint in my free time as I find it refreshing and relaxing. I also sometimes dabble in writing, whether it's comic books or screenplays. In the past, I've developed screenplays with Mark Williams of Zero Gravity (*Ozark*) and with Bruce Davey of Icon (Academy Award-winning producer of *Braveheart*) as co-writer.



KEY BACK ISSUE OF THE MONTH:

THE X-MEN FIRST RELOCATED
TO THE AUSTRALIAN
OUTBACK IN 1988, IN
UNCANNY X-MEN #229.



Email us at OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM and mark your messages
"Okay to Print" for a chance to see them answered in future issues!

CHECKLIST ON SALE MAY 2026

- ❑ **CGD ARMAGEDDON/X-MEN #1** – Free from your local retailer on Comics Giveaway Day! Your first look at ARMAGEDDON and the next X-MEN event! Plus Doom!

X-TEAMS

- ❑ **X-MEN #29** – "Danger Room" Part Four: The Danger Room has obliterated the X-Men. Or have they?
- ❑ **X-MEN #30** – "Danger Room" Part Five: Given that there's another chapter, I'd say not!
- ❑ **UNCANNY X-MEN #28** – Why are the New Mutants here? And where are the Outliers?
- ❑ **X-MEN UNITED #3** – While the X-Men aid Captain America in the past, the Beast and Magneto argue ethics in the present!
- ❑ **GENERATION X-23 #4** – The Facility has captured Scout and the new Generated, but an unrelenting Laura Kinney is in pursuit!
- ❑ **INGLORIOUS X-FORCE #4** – The Nasty Boys release Archangel's darkest self!

SOLO SERIES

- ❑ **WOLVERINE #20** – Learn the truth of the Savage Champions and their connection to the Adamantine!
- ❑ **CYCLOPS #4** – Bereft of his power-controlling visor, Cyclops gears up for war against the Reavers!
- ❑ **MOONSTAR #3** – The cursed sword Dáinsleif cleaves through Dani's memories!
- ❑ **MAGIK & COLOSSUS #4** – It's brother against sister at the command of Baba Yaga!
- ❑ **ROGUE #5** – It's time for Rogue to pay the price for her past actions!
- ❑ **STORM: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST MUTANT #4** – Furaha, Storm's daughter from tomorrow, has arrived!
- ❑ **WADE WILSON: DEADPOOL #4** – Hammerhead has learned Wade's secret—and he wants it for himself!
- ❑ **WOLVERINE: WEAPONS OF ARMAGEDDON #4** – Primewarrior pits Wolverine, Nuke and Dave Colton against one another—with a shocking result!

RETRO PROJECTS

- ❑ **PSYLOCKE: NINJA #5** – Psylocke and Elektra must put aside their differences to save Jubilee from the Snakeroot Clan!

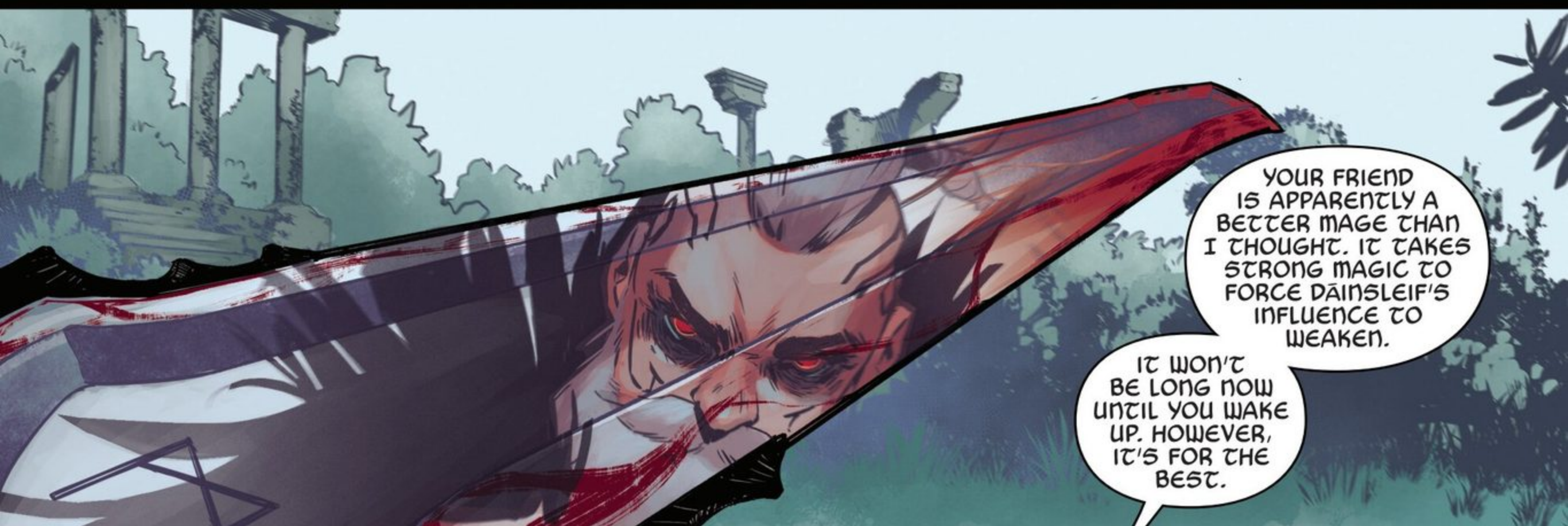
LINDSEY COHICK & CY PEDRO BELTRAN – Assistant Editors
ANNALISE BISSA – Associate Editor
MARK BASSO & DARREN SHAN – Editors
TOM BREVOORT – Conductor of X

"...LET
ALONE
TWO."

WESTERN SHANDONG
PROVINCE, CHINA.

COME ON.
COME ON!
YOU WON'T TAKE
ANOTHER FROM
ME, SWORD.

YOU
WON'T TAKE
HER AWAY.





I NEED TO GET TO COLORADO! BRIGHTWIND WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME!

YOU NEED TO REST. TELL ME WHAT'S--

WE DON'T HAVE TIME!

OKAY, I'LL GET YOU TO BOULDER. DON'T WORRY. I HAVE A WAY--



HAKK!

KIAN!



WHAT'S WRONG?! IS THIS DÄINSLEIF'S INFLUENCE? @\$%@, WHEN YOU HEALED ME, YOU OPENED YOURSELF UP.

THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.

IT ISN'T, DANI. I'M FINE. THIS IS SOMETHING I'M USED TO.



MY BODY HAS ALWAYS BEEN FRAIL. IT DOESN'T REACT WELL TO CASTING MAGIC.

I'VE BEEN ABLE TO GET AROUND IT FOR THE MOST PART, BUT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO HEAL YOU FOR THE PAST DAY.



YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE USED IT ON ME. I COULD HAVE FOUND A WAY OUT OF IT WITHOUT HURTING YOU.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN RUNNING ON LIMITED TIME. BESIDES, IT'S MY JOB. IT'S WHAT I SIGNED UP FOR.

ISN'T THAT WHY YOU JOINED THE SOCIETY TOO? TO PROTECT OTHERS?



WHO ELSE WOULD MAKE THE SACRIFICE?





THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING.



I KNOW THEY AREN'T HERE. BUT I NEED TO CHECK. I NEED TO MAKE SURE.

MOM!



WITH EVERY ROOM I CHECK, MY HOPE SLOWLY BUBBLES AWAY.

DAD!



CONFIRMING WHAT I ALREADY KNOW.

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? GET OUT OF MY WAY, KIAN!

MOM! I'M HERE. IT'S SAFE. YOU CAN COME OUT!



KYRON TOOK MY PARENTS.

AND JUST LIKE WITH DEMON BEAR, IT'S ALL MY FAULT.

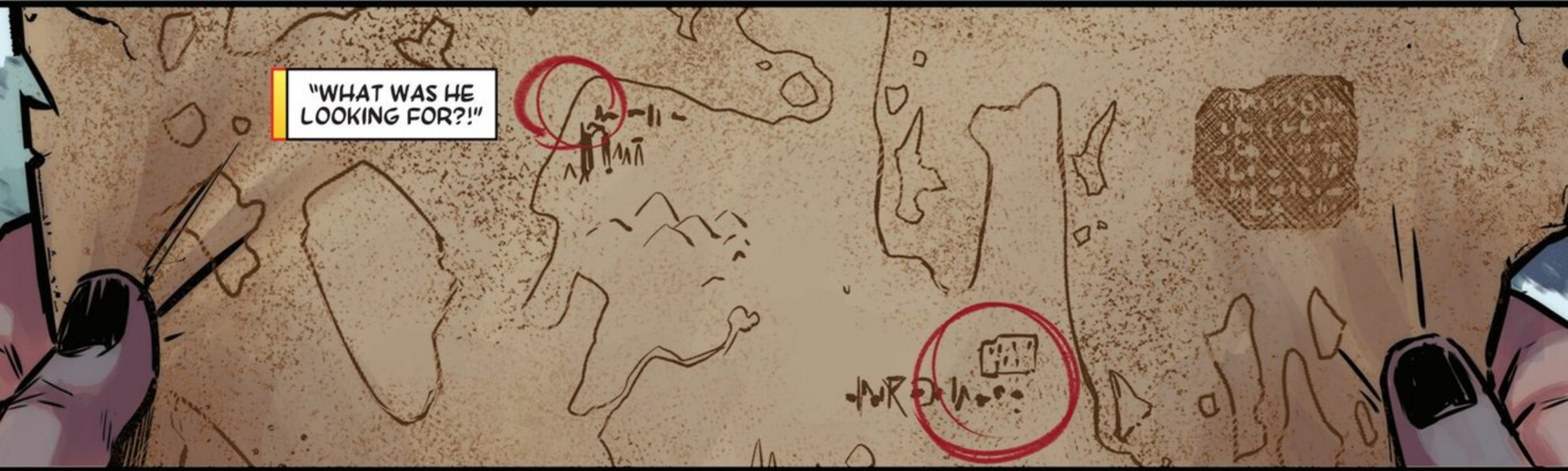
THEY AREN'T HERE, DANI! LISTEN TO ME, THEY AREN'T HERE!



WE NEED TO COME UP WITH A PLAN!

WE WILL--

WE NEED A PLAN NOW! WHERE WAS KYRON IN THE MEMORY I SAW? WHERE WAS HE GOING?!



"WHAT WAS HE LOOKING FOR?!"



NO.

WHAT'S WRONG? DANI, YOU HAVE TO TALK TO ME. WHAT DID YOU SEE?

HE'S GOING AFTER THE TABLET.



THE TABLET?

THE TABLET OF DEATH AND ENTROPY. I THOUGHT IT WAS DESTROYED. THE LAST PERSON I HEARD WHO HAD IT WAS WILSON FISK.*

THAT TABLET CONTAINS A SPELL THAT CAN AMPLIFY KYRON'S RITUAL. HE COULD ACTUALLY SUCCEED IN KILLING ALL LIFE ON EARTH.

*SEE GIANT-SIZE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: KING'S RANSOM #1 (WHEW!!) --DS



KYRON COULD BE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW.

WE'LL FIGURE THIS OUT, DANI. WE CAN'T LOSE HOPE.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF MY PARENTS ARE WITH HIM. OR IF HE TOOK THEM SOMEWHERE ELSE. I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE--



THERE'S NO TIME TO GO AFTER THEM BOTH. I CAN'T LOSE MY PARENTS AGAIN. BUT FOR THE PRICE OF THE WORLD...



THIS IS
CRUEL. I CAN'T
CHOOSE.

I JUST CAN'T
CHOOSE...

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT:

THE ULTIMATE CHOICE...AND SACRIFICE! Dani must choose between saving her parents or saving the world! But will she be able to choose before the choice is made for her? And will the villainous Kyron succeed in killing all life on Earth?



Email us at OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM and mark your messages "Okay to Print" for a chance to see them answered in future issues!